

REMARKS

A personal interview took place on November 11, 2006 between Examiner Popovics, Michael P. Byrne and Dr. Barbara Schwalge. The examiner completed and signed a form PTOL-413, but to ensure a complete and proper recordation of the substance of the interview, applicants now submit the following applicable items:

(A) a brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted;

The only exhibit shown was the declaration of Dr. Marianna Pierobon dated October 18, 2006, comparing the sedimentation behavior of various polymer powders in water. The declaration showed the difference in behavior of the four materials in water.

(B) identification of the claims discussed;

All of the claims were discussed. Claims 11 – 26 were discussed.

(C) identification of specific prior art discussed;

All prior art of record was discussed. US 6,117,459 was discussed in detail.

(D) identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary form completed by the examiner;

No amendments were discussed.

(E) the general thrust of the principal arguments of the applicant and the examiner

Applicants' representatives argued that novel, unobvious differences existed between the

cited reference and the claimed invention.

The examiner noticed that the following references were cited in the specification, and argued that he could not make a decision as to whether the present application was in condition for allowance until he was able to examine them. The references are:

- a) Der Doppelschneckenextruder: Grundlagen und Anwendungsgebiete [The double-screw extruder: Principles and areas of application], edited by VDI-Gesellschaft Kunststofftechnik, - Düsseldorf: VDI-Verlag, 1995, Chapter 7, and
- b) Aufbereiten von Polymeren mit neuartigen Eigenschaften [Compounding polymers having novel properties], edited by: VDI-Gesellschaft Kunststofftechnik, -Düsseldorf: VDI-Verlag, 1995, pp. 135ff.

It is noted that these documents have now been submitted along with the RCE of December 18, 2006.

(F) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed;

No other pertinent matters were discussed.

(G) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview; and

No agreement was reached.